

WASHINGTON NOTES.

MISS BLANCHE BEARD has sent in her resignation as postmaster of West Point, N. Y. She has held the position since 1898.

The regular cabinet session at the white house on the 16th was principally taken up by two photographers in getting a group picture of the president and his advisers.

It was said at Washington on the 16th that news direct from Madrid, though not official, was to the effect that the Spanish ministry acknowledges Spain's defeat in Cuba and that negotiations would be proposed shortly to the government of the United States looking to an end of the war.

The United States court of appeals has affirmed the verdict of a lower court awarding the government \$9,847 against Francis M. Rhodes, of Hannibal, Mo. The government, it is alleged, had been induced to pay him this sum as a pension for a disease of the eyes thought to have been contracted in the army, when he really suffered from the disease before he entered the service. Rhodes was a private in company K, Forty-Second Missouri volunteer infantry.

THERE was a rumor at Washington on the 16th that Senator Wolcott would be selected as a special commissioner to go to Europe on behalf of the United States government to continue negotiations looking to an international agreement on silver.

FRANK W. PALMER, of Chicago, is to be public printer and will be appointed very soon. President McKinley asked Senator Hale whether there would be any objection to Mr. Palmer's confirmation and was assured that there would not be.

CONGRESSMAN OVERSTREET called on President McKinley and entered a protest made by the International Typographical union against the appointment of Harrison G. Otis as first assistant secretary of war because he employs non-union printers on his paper, the Los Angeles Times.

SENATOR WILSON, of Washington, is trying to get the order of President Cleveland setting apart forest reservations in certain states nullified.

THE Washington Times on the 17th stated that Judge Lamoreaux may make a reply to the strictures passed upon his action in the Chicago lake front cases.

The president has accepted the resignation of Silas W. Lamoreaux as commissioner of the general land office.

THE interior department has rendered a decision granting to the state of Kansas 7,600 acres of agricultural college lands in lieu of that number of acres of double minimum lands, and the governor of the state will shortly be authorized to make the selection.

H. CLAY EVANS, of Tennessee, has notified the president by letter of his acceptance of the place of commissioner of pensions.

GENERAL NEWS.

A mob tried to break into the jail at Scottsboro, Ala., to lynch a negro minister named John Smith, who was confined there for an assault on a woman. All the efforts of the mob to get in, however, were fruitless, but the negro was espied fearfully watching them from his cell window and several men opened fire on him and killed him.

THE failures for the week ended the 19th in the United States were 216, according to Dun's report, against 261 last year.

JOHN HULL, an employe of the Erie railway at Serbia, Ind., shot his wife, the ball entering her throat and passing upward and through her cheek. Hull then turned the revolver upon himself, the bullet going through his head, inflicting a wound which proved fatal. The pair had separated and the husband wanted his wife to live with him again and she refused.

THE constitutional convention at Dover, Del., recently adopted a section which prevents the Delaware legislature from adopting the single tax system, even should it be so inclined.

H. McKAY TWOMBLY, son-in-law of the late William H. Vanderbilt and proprietor of a dairy which cost \$2,000,000, has gone into the milk business, to the consternation of the other local milk dealers who sell milk for a living. Mr. Twombly owns the Florham dairy, near Madison, N. J., and the milk dealers of that place complain that they cannot compete with a millionaire dairyman.

HEART disease caused the death of John Parshall, of Indianapolis, Ind., on the 17th. He was one of the six men deputed and sworn to dispose of the remains of John Wilkes Booth, the murderer of Abraham Lincoln, in such a manner that the secret of their resting place should never be known.

News from Memphis, Tenn., on the 16th was to the effect that the flood in the Mississippi valley was growing worse. Near Marion, Ark., people were reported to be lined up along the railroad and the waves threatened to sweep them off. Relief committees were doing all they could to rescue the sufferers. Many rumors of wholesale drownings were current.

JESSE GARRETT, the wealthiest young man at Dycusburg, Ky., shot himself in the abdomen with a small revolver because his sweetheart refused to kiss him good night. He was reported dying and the girl was prostrated.

THE large flouring mill of Bamble & McKinnett at Lafontaine, Ind., was burned recently and a carload of flour, 8,000 bushels of wheat, 1,000 bushels of corn and 1,000 bushels of chop were destroyed.

THROUGHOUT Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi many lives were reported lost on the 19th through the floods and the railroads were heavy sufferers. It was reported also that the levee at Hill House, Miss., had broken, flooding the farms in that locality.

A MOB of 150 men, which it was reported had been formed for the purpose of lynching James M. Gordy, who was jailed at Georgetown, Del., on the charge of murdering a woman, alleged to be his wife, did not put in an appearance on the night of the 18th. The sheriff had taken the precaution to have the jail strongly guarded.

A WRECK occurred at Laketon Junction, Ind., the fast westbound express on the Erie railway crashing into a Wabash locomotive and piling up the engines and express cars in a chaotic mass. Both engines were shattered and part of the express went into the ditch. Only one man was injured.

PATRICK PAINE, proprietor of the Iron Mountain hotel at Monroe, La., on the 19th shot and fatally wounded his wife and made an unsuccessful attempt to kill his little child and James McCabe, a bill collector, and was himself shot and seriously wounded by McCabe. Paine was jealous of his wife.

CAPT. DAY, of the United States army, who recently returned from Japan, reported the death of the crown prince of Japan, who was heir apparent to the throne. The death of the crown prince was being kept secret in Japan.

THE Austrian government received advices on the 18th that the Austrian gunboat Sebenico had sunk a Greek schooner with a cargo of munitions of war and a number of Cretan insurgents on board. The schooner was hailed by the gunboat and the insurgents on board in reply opened fire on the Sebenico, whereupon the latter turned her guns on the schooner and sank her.

TELEGRAMS from all points in the northwest on the 18th indicated that all the rivers had turned to raging torrents. At South Dakota along the Missouri and other rivers the settlers were fleeing. An Omaha, Neb., dispatch said that the Platte river was rushing into the Missouri, carrying with it the debris of wrecked bridges and farm yards in its valley. From Iowa came stories of ice gorges on the Des Moines river at Fort Dodge and Madrid, flooding miles of the bottoms and doing great damage.

At his home in Boston, William T. Adams ("Oliver Optic") was lying in a critical condition on the 18th from a complication of troubles which, combined with a naturally weak heart, had brought about a state from which no hope of recovery was given by his physician.

IGNACIO FRANCISCO DE LA CRUZ GARCIA, who was said to be the oldest man in the United States, died at Los Angeles, Cal., on the 18th, aged 117. He was a Mexican, but came to the United States when he was 35 years of age. He had documents which sustained his claim to such an advanced age.

NEAR Marion, Ark., Etta Lix and her four children were trying to make their way to Marion for shelter, and while attempting to cross a railroad trestle the strong current caused by the great flood overwhelmed the party and all perished. The oldest child was a girl aged 16 and the youngest an infant of eight months.

A DISPATCH from Canea on the 18th announced that the blockade of the island of Crete by the fleets of the powers would begin on the 21st, and that a notification to that effect had been addressed to the government at Athens and Constantinople.

WHEAT sold for \$1 at St. Louis on the 17th, the highest price paid there during the last six years.

THE fight between "Mysterious Billy" Smith and George Green, welterweights, at Carson, Nev., on the 17th was won by the latter. Smith had the worst of it until the 11th round, when he gave up the fight, saying that his arm had been broken in the fourth round.

A DISPATCH to the London Times from Athens stated that a strict blockade of Crete was begun on the 17th. Apparently there will be no blockade of Greek ports for some time to come. The insurgents in Crete were building fortifications at various strategic points, under the direction of Greek officers.

THE schooner Hilda came into New York on the 17th bearing four survivors of the steamer Ville de St. Nazaire, which sailed from New York for Port au Prince, Hayti, on the 6th. The men were picked up in a boat and were the only ones living out of 37 souls which had abandoned the Nazaire and taken to the boat. The others had starved, frozen or gone mad and jumped into the sea.

A COLLISION between two engines on the Denver & Gulf took place at Denver, Col., on the 18th. One of them was completely wrecked. The collision caused an escape of steam and two men, Hugh McBride and Patrick Casey, were caught in the escaping steam and found literally parboiled when their dead bodies were taken out a few minutes later.

DAVE PENNINGTON, of Odebolt, Ia., started out to kill a number of persons who had incurred his enmity. He killed Luther Traver and dangerously shot Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Stolt, and after daring a policeman who had cornered him to shoot he committed suicide by blowing the top of his head off.

THOMAS J. SHARKEY issued a defi at San Francisco on the 19th. The sailor pugilist claimed that he was the champion of the world and he intended to hold the championship until his colors were lowered. He said he had deposited a forfeit for a bet of \$10,000 and would fight Fitzsimmons, Maher, Goddard or any one else. Sharkey said that he had whipped Corbett and had got the decision over Fitzsimmons and nobody had any better right to the world's championship than he had.

RECENTLY two men entered the home of D. Jones near Wymore, Neb., and frightfully tortured him by burning him to make him tell where his money was. Jones crawled the next morning to a neighbor's house, where he died in horrible agony.

THE flood situation on the 19th in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota was reported as being very threatening. Many cities were submerged and an immense number of bridges had been washed away, all the streams being out of their banks.

A SEVERE windstorm struck Jackson, Miss., on the 19th. Heavy trees were uprooted, outbuildings destroyed and much other damage done.

A YOUNG woman, who was descending from a window of a hotel at New York by means of a patent fire escape, lost control of the apparatus and fell to the ground, suffering internal injuries. The inventor of the fire escape was arrested to await the result of the girl's injuries.

THE interstate commerce committee had a meeting at New York to investigate charges preferred against 44 railroads, forming the Joint Traffic association, for alleged discrimination against New York.

FIVE more tollgates were destroyed in Garrard county, Ky., on the night of the 16th by a mob of masked riders. GROVE HUNTLEY, convicted of the murder of Dell Manning, was sentenced by Judge Dale at Guthrie, Ok., to the penitentiary for life.

AN explosion of natural gas blew out the front of a house at Muncie, Ind., and Mrs. Mull had her lower limbs burned to a crisp. She pleaded with the firemen to kill her.

THREE men were fatally burned at the Emma blast furnace at Cleveland, O., by a series of explosions of molten metal.

THE Paris La Liberte urges European governments to anticipate President McKinley's tariff policy by reprisals, and says the United States has greater need of Europe for a market than Europe has of the United States.

A MEAT train jumped the track and was derailed at La Grange, Ill., and five men sustained serious injuries, two probably fatal.

TWELVE women have been arraigned for trial in Hungary on the charge of poisoning their husbands for their life insurance money.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

THE senate committee on Indian affairs has under consideration a bill appropriating \$25,000 "for improving the ground of the battle field at Lexington, Mo., providing that the ground itself shall be purchased and paid for by the citizens of Missouri."

A PROTEST has been sent to congress against the removal from the free list of books, educational apparatus, etc. It is signed by President Dwight and all the members of the faculty of Yale university at New Haven, Conn.

A DISASTROUS fire occurred at Ottumwa, Ia., on the 21st in a business block on Main street which destroyed property valued at \$180,000.

MAJ. CHARLES W. F. DICK, of Akron, O., was formally offered the place of secretary of the republican national committee at a salary of \$5,000 per year by Senator Hanna and Maj. Dick accepted.

A LETTER to the London Daily Mail recently said that the emperor of Germany, if not specifically insane, was liable to fits of aberration which, while they lasted, were indistinguishable from madness.

SCOTT JACKSON and Alonzo Walling, dental students, convicted of the murder of Pearl Bryan, were hanged together on a double trap in the jail yard at Newport, Ky., on the 20th.

GEN. J. T. FULLERTON, of St. Louis, was killed in the wreck of the express train near Oakland, Md., on the 20th. He was an officer in the confederate army and was a member of the Chickamauga park commission.

AN awful tragedy was enacted on the night of the 20th near Orrick, Ray county, Mo. Bee Rainwater shot his wife, his mother-in-law, his stepdaughter and his step-brother and then blew the top of his own head off. All the five are dead. The murderer was said to be of a morose disposition and did not live happily with his wife, frequent separations taking place.

A DISPATCH from Memphis, Tenn., on the 21st stated that many breaks in the levees along the Mississippi river had occurred between that city and Osceola, Ark., and that the rush of the waters at Sans Souci could be heard for miles. In Marion, Ark., all the houses were surrounded by water.

THE boiler of the locomotive which was hauling the Chicago and Boston train on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad blew up at Chicago on the 21st, killing the engineer and fireman and completely demolishing the engine.

A PLANTATION SPELL.

No More Plantains Stolen After the Obeah Man Was Called In.

The following is an instance of what Mr. Hesketh J. Bell saw with his own eyes in the British colony of Grenada, one of the Windward islands.

A planter had in his ground a fine lot of 2,000 plantains, but could never get a bunch of the fruit for the table. The "wretched niggers" of the neighborhood always walked off with it as quickly as it ripened. As neither watchman nor spring-guns had any effect in checking the depredations, he determined to have the gardens "dressed" by an Obeah man.

Accordingly one day he was by appointment waited on by a wizened old African, attended by a small black boy carrying a large, covered basket. Mokombo, on being told what was wanted, promised:

"Me go set strong Obeah for dem and dey nebbor go tief your plantain again." Instructed to go to work, Mokombo took up his basket and went down among the trees, which were planted in long rows in a large field. The plantain is much the same as the banana—the fruit growing in enormous bunches out of a soft fleshy trunk, the leaves on which spread out like those of a palm.

This is what the Obeah man proceeded to do: Out of his basket he took a number of large and small medicine bottles filled with some mysterious liquid; then taking up a position in front of a plantain, he tied one of the bottles on to a branch of the fruit, muttering the while an incantation in some African lingo, completing the spell by frequent genuflections and waving of the arms. He went through all the rows in the same fashion. When he had used up his stock of bottles he took from his basket a small black wooden coffin. This he placed with a good deal of ceremony in the branches of a cocoa tree, and on the top of the coffin he put a saucer containing a little water with a hen's egg floating in it. He then walked right around the field, muttering his incantation and waving his arms, after which he came to the planter and declared that the Obeah was complete—not another bunch of plantains would be stolen. Receiving his fee, he departed, saying: "Me let go plenty cribo, massa, and now if anyone da go and tief dem plantains he go swell up and bust!"

Criboes are large black serpents, very common in the island, but quite harmless. The planters, indeed, rather protect them, as they wage war on the rats. These criboes, however, are supposed to become deadly under the influence of the Obeah man, and the negroes believe that when he "dresses" a garden or field he sets free in it a swarm of ferocious criboes, who will assuredly destroy anyone who goes into the place for the purpose of stealing. They know well enough that there is no venomous snake in the island, yet the African dread and veneration of the serpent is ineradicable.

On the particular occasion referred to the bottles were examined after Mokombo's departure, and found to contain nothing but sea water, colored with a little laundry blue, with a dead cockroach floating on top. Some of them had also a few rusty nails, or a bit of red flannel. But there might be any sort of rubbish in the mystic bottles, for no negro would dare to touch them. Nor would he go near the trees on which they were hung, to steal, unless he was prepared to "swell up and bust." All the teaching of Christian ministers and schoolmasters for 50 years has not been able to destroy the dark superstitions brought over with the cargoes of slaves from the African coast during the previous two centuries.—Chambers' Journal.

THE GENERAL MARKETS.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 22.	
CATTLE—Best beefs.....	3 30 @ 5 10
Stockers.....	3 45 @ 4 35
Native cows.....	2 70 @ 4 00
HOGS—Choice to heavy.....	3 10 @ 4 07 1/2
SHEEP.....	3 10 @ 3 75
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	94 @ 96
No. 2 hard.....	76 @ 77
CORN—No. 2 mixed.....	18 1/2 @ 19
OATS—No. 2 mixed.....	17 @ 18
RYE—No. 2.....	30 @ 31
FLOUR—Patent, per sack.....	2 40 @ 2 50
Fancy.....	2 25 @ 2 35
HAY—Choice timothy.....	8 50 @ 9 00
Fancy prairie.....	5 50 @ 6 00
BRAN (sacked).....	55 @ 56
BUTTER—Choice creamery.....	16 1/2 @ 17
CHEESE—Full cream.....	10 1/2 @ 11
EGGS—Choice.....	7 1/2 @ 8
POTATOES.....	11 @ 22

ST. LOUIS.	
CATTLE—Native and shipping.....	2 50 @ 4 55
Texas.....	2 50 @ 4 10
HOGS—Heavy.....	3 50 @ 4 00
SHEEP—Fair to choice.....	2 00 @ 4 10
FLOUR—Choice.....	3 15 @ 3 25
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	65 @ 66
CORN—No. 2 mixed.....	21 @ 21 1/2
OATS—No. 2.....	16 1/2 @ 17 1/2
RYE—No. 2.....	33 @ 34
BUTTER—Creamery.....	14 @ 14 1/2
LARD—Western mess.....	4 10 @ 4 20
PORK.....	8 50 @ 9 15

CHICAGO.	
CATTLE—Common to prime.....	3 70 @ 5 30
HOGS—Packing and shipping.....	3 60 @ 4 15
SHEEP—Fair to choice.....	3 50 @ 4 35
FLOUR—Winter wheat.....	4 25 @ 4 60
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	85 @ 90
CORN—No. 2.....	23 1/2 @ 24 1/2
OATS—No. 2.....	16 1/2 @ 16 3/4
RYE.....	32 1/2 @ 33 1/2
BUTTER—Creamery.....	10 @ 18
LARD.....	4 17 1/2 @ 4 30
PORK.....	8 55 @ 8 90

NEW YORK.	
CATTLE—Native Steers.....	4 25 @ 5 05
HOGS—Good to Choice.....	3 90 @ 4 25
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	81 @ 82
CORN—No. 2.....	28 1/2 @ 29 1/2
OATS—No. 2.....	17 1/2 @ 18
BUTTER—Creamery.....	13 @ 19
PORK—Mess.....	9 00 @ 9 10

Beware of Quinments for Catarrh That Contain Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is often ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

Sold by Druggists, price 75c per bottle. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

There is at least one encouraging sign: Loafers are less popular than they ever were before.—Aitchison Globe.

I believe Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my boy's life last summer.—Mrs. Allie Douglas, Le Roy, Mich., Oct. 20, '94.

The blossoms of spring are the prophets of autumn. So a joyful service in youth promises a rich fruitage in after years.

How My Throat Hurt!—Why don't you use Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar? Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

When a little old man wants to make an impression, he puts on a plug hat.

Be sure; neuralgia will cease. St. Jacobs Oil will cure. Get ease.

We never like a man who is a fancy whistler.—Aitchison Globe.

Cascarets stimulate liver, kidneys and bowels. Never sicken, weaken or gripe, 10c.

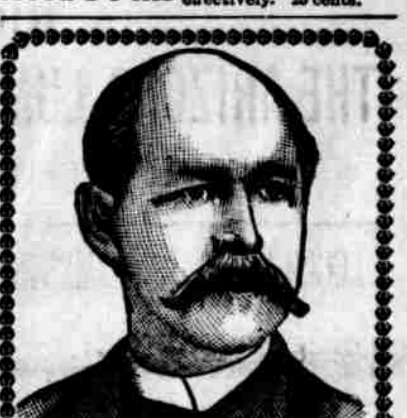
It is more important to bear good fruit than much fruit.—Ram's Horn.

Spring

Is the time to purify your blood and fortify your system against the dangers which threaten the health because of impurities accumulated in the blood. Take

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The One True Blood Purifier. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills act easily, promptly and effectively. 25 cents.



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